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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Simon William BARKER and Ronald Roger DESROSIERS

Serial No.: 10/574,414 Group Art Unit: 1725

Filed : March 31, 2006 Examiner: K. Lin

For : SURFACE TEXTURING OF CASTING BELTS OF CONTINUOUS
CASTING MACHINES

1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036
October 4, 2007

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

SIR:

**COMMUNICATION IN RESPONSE
TO SEPTEMBER 13, 2007 AND SEPTEMBER 24, 2007 OFFICE ACTIONS**

This Communication is submitted in response to a September 13, 2007 Office Action and a duplicated September 24, 2007 Office Action which were issued in connection with the above-identified application. A response to these Office Actions is due October 13, 2007 and October 24, 2007 respectfully. Accordingly, this Communication is being submitted timely.

The Office Action requires a restriction under 35 U.S.C. §121 and §372 to one of the following allegedly distinct inventions:

Group I - Claims 1-27, drawn to an apparatus and a method for casting molten metal;

or

Group II - Claims 28-36, drawn to a casting belt for use in a belt caster;